Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Upper Arkansas WS - Forestry

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: Upper Arkansas WS - Forestry		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	Yes O or No O
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes O or No O
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes O or No O
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	Yes O or No O
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes O or No O
6. c. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes O or No O
6. e. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes O or No O
Strategic Initiative – Energy Conservation and Sustainable Production Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O

Business Lines – Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	Yes O or No O
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes O or No O
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes O or No O

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the project reduce the amount of nutrients/pesticides/salt/selenium or other pollutants entering ground or surface waters?	Yes O or No O
2. Will the planned practice(s) promote water conservation on the contracted acres?	Yes O or No O
3. Does the project increase the diversity of desirable plants on grazing lands?	Yes O or No O
4. Does the project improve the health of riparian and/or wetland areas?	Yes O or No O
5. Is the proposed project located within the State NRCS wildlife priority area, and do the planned practices address the habitat needs of the targeted species designated in the wildlife priority area?	Yes O or No O
6. Will the planned practice(s) reduce irrigation induced or streambank erosion?	Yes O or No O
7. Has any portion of the offered acres been set aside or inventoried by a Cultural Resources Specialist or an Archeologist?	Yes O or No O
8. Does the proposed project support organic transition (farming operation to be used while transitioning from conventional to organic production)?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Has there been a forest management plan developed by qualified forester?	Yes O or No O
2. Is this application a joint agreement?	Yes O or No O
3. Is the plan part of an area forest management plan that involves at least two adjacent properties?	Yes O or No O
4. Is the site assessment score of specific potential environmental benefit >0 but =<5?	Yes O or No O
5. Is the site assessment score of specific potential environmental benefit >5 but =<10?	Yes O or No O
6. Is the site assessment score of specific potential environmental benefit >10 but =<15?	Yes O or No O
7. Is the site assessment score of specific potential environmental benefit >15 but =<20?	Yes O or No O
8. Is the site assessment score of specific potential environmental benefit >20?	Yes O or No O
9. Is the planned conservation treatment part of a post-burn recovery effort?	Yes O or No O
10. Does the planned conservation treatment impact potential burn by the reduction of hazardous fuels for the prevention of wildfires?	Yes O or No O
11. Is the erosion reduction score for concentrated flow >0 but =<3?	Yes O or No O
12. Is the erosion reduction score for concentrated flow >3 but =<5?	Yes O or No O
13. Is the erosion reduction score for concentrated flow >5 but =<10?	Yes O or No O
14. Is the erosion reduction score for concentrated flow >10 but =<20?	Yes O or No O
15. Is the erosion reduction score for concentrated flow >20 but =<30?	Yes O or No O
16. Is the erosion reduction score for concentrated flow >30 but =<40?	Yes O or No O
17. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a switchback system?	Yes O or No O
18. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a rest-rotation system?	Yes O or No O

19. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a deferred rotation system?	Yes O or No O
20. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a limited pasture high intensity short duration system?	Yes O or No O
21. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improves grazing rotation with a standard pasture high intensity short duration system?	Yes O or No O
22. Does the conservation treatment include modification of grazing duration to allow each pasture to be grazed during growing season for 15 days or less each time AND each pasture grazed at a different time from year to year?	Yes O or No O
23. Does the conservation treatment include modification of grazing duration such that a scheduled rotation is used that will allow the grazing duration in each pasture to be greater than 15 days but less than or equal to 30 days AND each pasture is grazed at a different time from year to year?	Yes O or No O
24. Will grazing land monitoring be conducted by any one of the following methods (photo points, forage analysis, permanent transects)?	Yes O or No O
25. Is the Ground Cover Improvement, Drought Recovery Restoration and Noxious Weed Control Scorecard Index =<5 but >0?	Yes O or No O
26. 26. Is the Ground Cover Improvement, Drought Recovery Restoration and Noxious Weed Control Scorecard Index >5 but =<10? (8 points)	Yes O or No O
27. Is the Ground Cover Improvement, Drought Recovery Restoration and Noxious Weed Control Scorecard Index >10 but =<15?	Yes O or No O
28. Is the Ground Cover Improvement, Drought Recovery Restoration and Noxious Weed Control Scorecard Index >15 but =<20?	Yes O or No O
29. Is the Ground Cover Improvement, Drought Recovery Restoration and Noxious Weed Control Scorecard Index >20?	Yes O or No O
30. Does the conservation treatment include the installation of practices that improve and enhance wildlife habitat as a part of the overall operation of the agricultural enterprise, including invasive species control?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

Efficiency:

Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: **Signature Date:**	**Application Signature Not Required for Contract Development unless required by State policy:** **Signature Date:**